

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-59. (Canceled)

60. (Currently amended) An ear probe tip for a probe which can be inserted into an ear canal[[,]] comprising,

the probe having [[an]] a tube portion with an outer surface, the tube portion beginning at a probe base and terminating at a probe end thereby defining a length of the tube portion, the tube portion to be covered by the ear probe tip and a probe end, the ear probe tip comprising: the length being sufficient to allow insertion of the tube portion into a test subject's ear canal up to the probe base;

the probe tip bounded by a first end and a second end defining a body portion, the body portion being of substantially the same length as the length of the tube portion of the probe to be covered and having a first end and a second end;

a passage formed within the body portion, the passage having a first opening at the first end, a second opening at the second end and a surface extending within the body portion between the first opening and the second opening, the passage being configured to receive the probe such that when the probe is received within the passage the surface is disposed about the probe, is substantially in contact with the outer surface of the probe along the length to be covered and the second opening is proximate to the probe end;

an outer surface of the body portion; and

a plurality of flanges extending substantially perpendicularly from the outer surface, each of the plurality of annular flanges having a diameter, the diameter of adjacent annular flanges decreasing in size from the first end toward the second end,

wherein a flange closest to the second opening is offset from the second end.

61. (Currently amended) The ear probe tip of claim 60, wherein the outer surface comprises one of a frusto-conical shape and a cylindrical shape and the passage

comprises [[one of]] a corresponding frusto-conical shape [[and]] or a corresponding cylindrical shape.

62. (Previously presented) The ear probe tip of claim 60, wherein the body portion comprises a frusto-conical shape.

63. (Previously presented) The ear probe tip of claim 60, wherein at least one flange comprises a substantially circular shape.

64. (Previously presented) The ear probe tip of claim 60, wherein each of the plurality of annular flanges is disposed substantially perpendicular to the body portion.

65. (Canceled)

66. (Previously presented) The ear probe tip of claim 60, the first opening comprising a chamfer.

67. (Previously presented) The ear probe tip of claim 60, the passage having an increased size diameter portion adjacent the first opening.

68. (Previously presented) The ear probe tip of claim 60 further comprising a ring formed on the outer surface adjacent the first end.

69. (Previously presented) The ear probe tip of claim 60, wherein the passage has an incrementally decreasing diameter from the first end toward the second end.

70. (Previously presented) The ear probe tip of claim 60, wherein the second end extends past the probe end a distance when the probe is received within the passage, the distance the second end extends past the probe end being sufficient to prevent the probe end from contacting a patient's ear upon insertion of the probe into the patient's ear canal and insufficient to form a portion of the acoustic path from the probe end into the patient's ear canal.

71. (Previously presented) The ear probe tip of claim 60, wherein the outer surface as an incrementally decreasing diameter from the first end toward the second end.

72. (Currently amended) The ear probe tip of claim 60, the first end having a surface, the surface being configured to engage [[a]] the base portion of the probe.

73. (Canceled)